

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OR,

Political, Commercial, and Literary Gazette.

Vol. IV.]

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1819.

[No. 137.

Published Daily, with the exception of Mondays,—and accompanied with occasional Engravings, illustrative of Antiquities, Science, and the Arts,—at a Subscription price of Eight Rupees per Month, and Half a Rupee for each Plate issued.

General Summary of News.

EUROPE.

We have been obligingly furnished with a copy of the Liverpool Courier of the 3d of March, brought by the Bengal, Captain Woodward, from Liverpool, which port she left on that day.

In running over its columns hastily we find several interesting articles of provincial news, which with the latest Liverpool Price Current of Indian Goods, we must defer till our next.

The London news contained in this Paper extends to the 1st of March, and the most prominent article of intelligence is that relating to the state of mercantile credit in the city. The following is a paragraph from a ministerial Paper, dated from the city, London, March 1st, at one o'clock.

"The panic of Saturday on the Stock Exchange continues this morning with increased dismay. India bonds, which a few days ago were at 90 shillings premium, have been at 20 shillings. Exchequer bills have been sold at from 12 to 14 shillings discount, and consols for money at 72 $\frac{1}{4}$. Still the market continues dull and gloomy. The great sellers and speculators continue this morning to sell with unabated vigour. Some respectable houses have been purchasing. Stocks have at times recovered, have rallied a little; they have soon been again beaten down below their former lowest price. Some of the accounts of the settling day have been held over till to-morrow, others till the 5th of March, the day on which certain of the funds shut for the dividends; and there are persons who speculate on the stocks being still lower.

From all we can learn, we do not believe there is any other foundation for this panic in the city, except the sinister reports sent forth of what has occurred and is occurring in the Parliamentary secret committees on the Bank restriction. Some of these we have ascertained to be quite groundless; others are obviously ridiculous; but while the committee sit, it is certain a violent fever will exist in the monied and commercial world."

PRICE OF STOCKS, MONDAY AT ONE.

3 per cent. red. 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 73 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 per cents. 104 $\frac{1}{2}$	103 $\frac{1}{2}$
3 per cent. cons. 73 $\frac{1}{4}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	India Bonds 30 20 pr. do. for ac. 74 $\frac{1}{2}$	Long Ann. 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ 9-16
4 per cents. 92 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ 73 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ex. Bills (2d.) 6 4	10 dis.

Indian Affairs.—It is a remark made by all who are privileged with admission behind the scenes, that much of the charm of Theatrical representation is destroyed by the familiar sight of the preparations and contrivances by which the ultimate effect is produced. In the affairs of life, it is no less true that an acquaintance with the secret steps by which certain measures are brought about, materially affects our opinions regarding them.

In our Journal of yesterday, we had the pleasure to lay before our readers an Extract from a Letter of the Honourable Court of Directors, dated the 24th of February, 1819, containing the Resolutions for Votes of Thanks to Lord Hastings, Sir Thomas Hislop, and the officers and troops generally, engaged in the late glorious Campaign in India. On the reservations therein made, more particularly that which ventured to record regret at the extension of the Company's territory, at the same time that the campaign which led to this extension was applauded in the highest terms, we before expressed our opinion, at the time this inconsistency was deprecated in the Debates that took place at the India House on this occasion.

A friend who read for the first time in our Journal of yesterday, the official notice of this Vote of Thanks, transmitted to us in the course of the day an Extract of a private Letter from one of the principal Proprietors of India Stock, which is quite conclusive on the inconsistency adverted to, and is, we think unanswerable.

"At a Court of Proprietors of East India Stock on Wednesday," says this writer, "I gave my most cordial concurrence for a Vote of Thanks to Lord Hastings, for his brilliant services. Our acknowledgements, however, would not have been so enlarged, but for the Proprietors, as the Directors, with their usual narrow policy, were desirous by a side wind to disapprove of a conquest, although their own despatches to the Governor General recommended the acts which led to additional Territories!!"

We must depart from the usual order of our arrangement here, to add to this, some excellent and appropriate observations on the subject of the Vote of Thanks, which not simply the Courts and public Assemblies of the nation at home; but which the hearts of every British subject in India must yield to the distinguished Chief who conducted the campaigns and now directs the councils of our Indian empire, with so much satisfaction to all who have the happiness to live under his government.

In the Madras Courier of the 29th of June, which came to hand yesterday, the Editor makes the following remarks:

"The Address to the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings was removed from the Exchange on Saturday evening. It now only remains with the Committee to carry the ulterior resolutions into effect. The signatures to this grateful testimony to the eminent merits of our illustrious Governor General are very numerous, and consist of the names of the most respectable persons in the enlightened European community of this city.

The readers of the Madras Courier have already perused the debates at the India House on the 3d of February, which arose out of the proposal for voting the thanks of the Proprietors to the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings. The Noble Marquis will receive the thanks of the British public of this Settlement, and those of the Honorable Company about the same time. He will also learn that the thanks of both Houses of Parliament were about to be voted on the same subject.

It is not then in the East alone; it is not within the precincts of his power, where the majority of the public may in some measure be said to be connected with and dependent upon the Administration of the Governor General, that the late stupendous and splendid operations have met with universal admiration and applause.—The feelings of the Indian Public have been warmly adopted in Europe, and the fame of Hastings is proclaimed even by those countries unconnected with and uninterested by the consolidation of British authority in India.

Those who have ever experienced the pleasures of well-earned applause will be able to appreciate the proud feelings of exultation, which must now pervade the mind of our magnanimous Governor General. But though his Lordship must be highly gratified at the eulogies he has received from his countrymen, both in Europe and Asia, after the toils and dangers inseparable from his late gigantic measures; still we apprehend his chief source of delight will be derived from the inward satisfaction, which his peculiarly sensitive and affectionate heart must feel at the reflection that he has delivered thousands and millions of our Indian subjects from the horrible cruelties and atrocities of the hordes of Russian banditti, which so lately invaded our territories, and carried rapine lust and destruction wherever they went. Our readers cannot have forgotten the grief and indignation which we all experienced when intelligence of these atrocities was daily brought to us by every succeeding *tappal*.—But how changed is the scene!—In the eloquent and feeling words of Sir Samuel Toller, expressed by him in moving the address to which we have already referred, “ Those dire calamities to which I have been adverted are for ever terminated. Our ears shall no more be assailed by the piercing cries of helpless misery. Those atrocious barbarians shall no more sport with human life, or blast human happiness. Our towns and our villages shall no more be involved in flames, or deluged with blood. Peace and security are restored to our borders.”

Thus, then the Nobleman at the head of our Indian Government may view the mighty operations in which he has been engaged since the care of these vast dominions was committed to his charge, with the proud satisfaction of having discharged the duties of that great trust with uprightness and integrity, as well as with profound wisdom, and with having fulfilled all those great expectations which were entertained from his well-known character for talent, for skill, and for energy. We could not refrain from committing these crude and hasty remarks to paper, which occurred to us on looking over the address with its columns of signatures. We need not remark that every one connected with the late operations is a participator in the glories of the Government.”

ASIA.

The Journals of Madras and Bombay last received, both speak of the late Earthquake having been felt in those quarters as it was here. The following paragraphs are from the Madras Courier of the 29th of June, and the Bombay Gazette of the 23d.

Madras.—An Earthquake, a Phenomenon very unusual, we may say almost unprecedented in this part of India, occurred on the 16th instant in various parts of the Peninsula. We have heard that it was experienced in a slight degree at Pondicherry and at Pulicat, and an obliging Correspondent in the district of Coimbatore, has communicated to us some account of this extraordinary occurrence in that quarter. He justly observes, “it may not be uninteresting to hear that one took place on the evening of the 16th Instant at Triviar in this district.” In our account received from the district Moonsif, he states, that about half after seven P. M. when holding his Cutcharee, the Earth suddenly became convulsed, that all present became as if intoxicated and could not stand, that the pillars of the building shook and threatened its destruction,

Boxes, &c. were moved from their places—that the Pagodas and Town remained in motion for about four minutes. He states that the Tanedar was also at his duties at the time and was thrown down, as was also the Peon who went to assist him. These Persons with many of the Town People experienced violent vomiting, but no accident happened. So little known is such a visitation, that the Moonsif quotes his Hindoo Shasters as foretelling that an Earthquake would *sometime* happen. The state of the atmosphere before and after the shock is not mentioned, nor if it was attended with any noise.

We may here mention as connected in a manner with the Earthquake, that on the same date a tremendous thunder storm was experienced at Masulipatam. The lightning was terrific, and in the height of the storm the electric fluid struck a Bungalow in which were three gentlemen. It is described as “ appearing like a ball of fire, which almost immediately burst with the report of a 14 inch shell.” The roof of the Bungalow was thatched; consequently the whole house burned to the ground in a very short time. It may be considered as little short of a miracle that no one was hurt materially—the gentlemen who were in the Bungalow contrived to make their escape, but they were so stunned, that they heard no thunder afterwards, though it is described as having been tremendous.”

Bombay.—Accounts from all parts of the Island confirm the fact of a slight shock of an Earthquake having been felt. But it appears to have been so slight a convulsion, and of such rare occurrence, that most people doubted the evidence. The west side of the Island seems to have been most affected, for we have been informed at Cambala, the undulations were distinct, and in the houses in the vicinity of the Retreat, the lamps were shook violently; it was felt at Sion, and along the east side of the Island, but less distinctly, and its duration was only of a few seconds.

This is also further corroborated by the following extract of a letter from Surat, dated 17th June.

“At 20 minutes past seven yesterday evening, I felt a strange trembling sensation; I looked up, and observed the wall shades shaking and the chandeliers swinging. There was not a breath of air, though not a minute before the wind was blowing very pleasantly. I ran down stairs out of the house, fully expecting it would fall, but this not happening, I ventured upstairs again, being desirous of observing the barometer.

The quicksilver was moving up and down rapidly, but this I am convinced was occasioned merely by the motion communicated to it by the shaking of the wall, to which it was suspended. I remained however no longer than was absolutely necessary to observe this, and ran down again, my speed not a little accelerated by the increased velocity in the movement of the wall shades and chandeliers, the latter of which swung so much as to throw all the tumbler glasses off their stands, against the sides of the shades. When I reached the open air, the earth still moved, and it is my belief that the shock must have lasted nearly a minute and a half. I did not return into the house for some minutes after the trembling ceased. When I did so, I went directly to the barometer, but no change had taken place in it. It remained as before the earthquake commenced. The thermometer at 83.

I really never experienced any thing so truly awful, and most earnestly hope I may never meet with another. It is strange that my servants did not perceive it. I met them on the staircase bringing up the dinner, and sent them all back again to their great surprise, and not till they stood quietly outside, did they observe the motion of the earth, though it must have been in that way when they passed over it not three seconds before. The inhabitants of the city I hear made the best of their way into the open streets, where they remained for a considerable time. I cannot well describe the sensation of the earth moving under me. It was a sort of helplessness, and I felt as if undetermined whether I should stand or lie down.”

Theatricals.—The Pieces represented at Dum Dum, on Wednesday evening, were *The Innkeeper's Daughter*, a new Melo Drama, and *The Watch House, or Father and Son*, a new Farce, written by one of the Performers at Dum Dum, expressly for that Theatre.

The story of the first Piece is almost too full of villainy for belief, but the incidents of it are striking, and with the aid of the scenery and music, both of which we understand were designed and composed by individuals of the Performers, form altogether an attractive Piece for representation.

The first scene opens with a view of the sea in the distance, with a ship on fire, which is represented to be the vessel of a gang of smugglers, whose chief, Harrop, has his house on the beach, near which his son in the dress of a sailor is at work, splicing and repairing rigging. The scene itself was excellent, and the conflagration of the ship well managed.

Harrop, the chief, soon appears, and nothing could surpass the fidelity of dress and general character in this prince of ruffians, the very sight of whom was sufficient to mark him as a murderer. The body of a young lad (his own son we believe) wounded in resistance to the Officers of Government and covered with blood, is then brought on the stage, and the mother displays the feelings of nature towards her child, at which even the unfeeling hearts of all the gang except her husband appears to be affected.

A Guager and an Exciseman, the latter a German or Dutchman under the name of Hansketzler, are introduced in the next scene, consulting on the measures of promoting their own views by the seizures of contraband goods, &c. The former, however, is soon afterwards shot by Harrop, in a wood, and the latter remains to become a prominent character in all the subsequent parts of the Piece.

The scene of the interior of the Inn, was exceedingly appropriate, and the characters such in appearance as may be seen every day at the small country inns on the coasts of England, where smuggling and fishing are the chief occupations of the people, and the success or failure of their trips, the chief topics of conversation.

Richard, a young smuggler, but a lad, whose heart is too warm and upright to do a treacherous deed by informing, yet whose principles are too correct to approve of all that is passing around him, is a lover of Mary, the Innkeeper's Daughter and heroine of the Piece; and she declares her intention not to become his wife, until he abandons this mode of livelihood. The interview between them at the Inn is interesting, and the return to salute, natural and unaffected.

A conversation arises among the company on the subject of apparitions, and a wager is laid that Mary the Innkeeper's Daughter, durst not go into the Church-yard at midnight, and cut off a slip from the old Jew tree that stands near her mother's grave. She undertakes the task and is furnished with a knife for the purpose from one of the company. On her reaching the church-yard, a storm of thunder and lightning arises, and to add to the horrors of the tempest, Harrop is seen with Richard her lover, whom he has prevailed on to assist him in the task, carrying the body of the murdered Guager and plunging it into the sea. Richard's hat is dropped, and afterwards taken up by Mary. She herself is then seen, and is fired at and pursued by Harrop, who dreads her conveying information that may lead to his detection. She escapes, but leaves the knife and branch of Jew behind her, the former of which is taken up by Harrop.

The company at the Inn being alarmed for Mary's protracted absence, go in search of her, find her in great distress and hear her describe the plunging the murdered body into the sea, while she presents unknowingly the hat of Richard her lover, as that of one of the accomplices in this act.

Harrop strengthens this suspicious circumstance by subsequently placing a pocket book of the murdered Gu-

ger in the pocket of Richard, and contriving to leave him alone in the cottage, with the dead body of his wife, whom it appears, he had fired at in his way from supposing her to be a stranger, and murdered also.

He is consequently found here, and taken up on suspicion of the murder, confined in the belfry of the tower, under the care of Hansketzler the German.

Harrop, however, fearing that Richard might still disclose the facts, and thus hasten his own destruction, determines to rescue him, for the sake of destroying him also, and with him all fear of detection. The scene which represents the cavern of the gang on the beach with the smugglers surrounding a fire, and carousing together, was very fine, and the horror expressed by all at the proposition of their leader quite characteristic of the class of people whom it is intended to describe.

Harrop, nevertheless, ascends the belfry, and with his son and Mary effect the escape of Richard, whom he dispatches by sea to a place of safety, but in a stormy night in which it was impossible for a boat to live. The next scene therefore opens, with a tempestuous sea, which is finely represented, and the distressed and sea beaten Richard is seen buffetting with the waves, and contending with the foam at the foot of a rock on which the light house stands, without hope of safety.

A proposal is made by the distracted Mary of any sum that could be demanded, for one of the smugglers to put off in a boat for his relief, but none will dare to venture their lives in such a tempest until she braves all danger and sets the example, in which she is followed by one of the men, and they succeed in rescuing him from the waves and bringing him to shore.

In the original Piece, we have heard, (for we have not seen the book) it is so arranged that Harrop, who ascends the light house, to witness from the gallery the destruction of Richard on the rocks below, leans over in his anxiety to glut his murderous eyes on this savage sight, when the railing breaks and he is precipitated into the ocean and perishes, while the victim of his bloody purpose is saved. As this, however, was not practicable in the small Theatre here, without danger, it was provided for by having Harrop at last shot by the Exciseman whom he had so long successfully defied.

The Piece closes with the destruction of the infamous villain, and the ultimate triumph and union of Richard, and his fair and faithful Mary, the heroine of the night.

Too much praise cannot be given to the good taste of the managers, in getting up such a Piece; and the talents of those by whom the decorations of the scenery were devised, the music composed, and the characters supported, were all very excellent supports to each other.

Between the Pieces a song was sung by a very favorite comic actor; and we were glad to observe that on being encouraged, he had the good sense to perceive that few songs, and above all comic ones, improve on repetition, and that he accordingly on returning to the audience stated his being oppressed by a severe cold, and begged on that account to be excused.

Of the new Farce of *The Watch House, or Father and Son*, we have before given our opinions at great length, on the occasion of its first representation. We have now only to add that all the characters were as well supported as before; and Hawbuck, of whom through inadvertance rather than design, we omitted to make mention on that occasion, did his part throughout with great credit to himself.

This Farce, which is so creditable to the talents of the young author, whose pen has produced it, is in the press, and will appear, as we are informed in the course of a few days. It has met a very liberal patronage from the Officers of the Artillery at Dum Dum, as well as from many private gentlemen who witnessed its representation there; and we sincerely hope that his labours may be rewarded as amply as they deserve.

Illegal Imprisonment.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

SIR.—Although your report of the Address of Sir F. Macnaghten to the Jury on the 13th, may not have been correct in all respects, it does not appear, except in one part, (about which I shall not now concern myself) to require explanation.

The learned Judge did speak of the constant practice of individual Commissioners sitting singly and each by himself decreeing causes.

The right of one Commissioner to make an order for the apprehension of persons in particular cases, never was denied, that is for the purpose of preventing the escape of debtors and of having them forthcoming to answer the demand against them.

So a single Judge of the Supreme Court grants an order for a Capias to hold the Bail.—Trial and judgment are very different considerations—*Summons* and other process MUST be signed by one Commissioner of the Court of Requests, but this has nothing to do with the Trial and Decree.

The three Commissioners constitute the Court. The Court is to try the causes, and pronounce the Decrees. The passage quoted by your Correspondent proves (of itself alone) that one Commissioner has no right to try a cause, and that even two are incompetent to the purpose, unless the Commissioners shall be reduced to that number. In that case those two must sit together. It would indeed be a curious constitution which enacted that the senior of two should decide, when in fact there was but one to be present.

The Proclamation does not authorize even two to hear a cause, unless the Commissioners shall be reduced to that number.—In that case the provision quoted by your Correspondent is made.—It is made from necessity which alone can be its justification. It may be said, as the senior of the two in this case of necessity has the deciding voice, that he may as well sit alone.

By the Proclamation three (i. e. the Court) are directed to try the causes. This secures deliberation.—If one only shall sit, he sits without authority, and his acts are illegal. It may be of the greatest importance that two should sit, although one from his seniority, is to have a casting voice in case of disagreement. The junior has a right to suggest the necessity of further proofs, to examine witnesses for the purpose of getting at the truth, to observe upon matter favourable to either of the parties. The parties have both the benefit of his presence, and many things may occur to the junior, which might escape the notice of the senior. It is of the greatest importance if it be not asserted that the senior will exercise his authority at all events, and determine right or wrong in hostility to the junior in pronouncing his decree against one of the parties; such conduct as this never was I believe imputed to any of the Commissioners:—So much for the justice and expediency of the thing.

But, Sir, if the Senior Commissioner is every thing, it will follow that the Junior is nothing. If the one has a right under peculiar circumstances to decide all causes, and if he is therefore authorized to sit alone, it is a pity your Correspondent had not informed us upon what authority it is that the Junior acts, when he sits alone? The matter contained in your Report of Sir F. Macnaghten's Address to the Jury is precise. It is that each Commissioner, Junior as well as Senior, sits and decides and decrees ALONE. Why is this not admitted or denied? I take for granted that your Report of what fell from the learned Judge is correct. Your Correspondent doubts it; but by his quotations from the Proclamation, he proves, that if the Commissioners do sit and act apart and separately in their judicial capacity, they do so without authority.

I wish to confine my observations to the Letter of to-day. I believe what is stated as having fallen from the Judge will be found in a Rule or Regulation relating to the Court of Requests:

but whether or not is of no consequence, as the question and the only question is "*Do the Commissioners, sitting each by himself, and so deciding causes, act legally or illegally?*" The Regulation which I believe to exist, goes to direct the proceedings when in Court, and this Court is, as it always has been, composed of three, and not reduced to two Commissioners. When reduced to two, we have seen the course to be pursued. If your Correspondent had been aware of this, he of course would not have concealed it.

As to murder, I hope it will not be the consequence of the proceedings, or of any thing arising out of the proceedings of the Court of Requests. Murder must be an unlawful as well as malicious putting to death. It is not to be constituted by a resistance of lawlessness.—In the defence of our property, and of our persons, if lawfully attacked, we may justly kill;—we are not Murderers.—Every man has a right to repel the attacks which may be made upon his person, for the purpose of casting him into unlawful imprisonment.—He who is employed in such an office, may be killed, but not murdered, although the party upon whom the attempt is made will be murdered if killed; and he who undertakes without lawful authority to violate the house or seize upon the property of his fellow subject is a house breaker or a robber, and the parties offending and offended will be estimated accordingly by the Law. The subject is worthy of the most serious consideration.

Calcutta, July 16, 1819.

VERAX.

New Weapons of Sepoys.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR.—A circumstance which occurred on Saturday last, has excited my own curiosity and attention, that I cannot refrain from making it known to the Public, through your Journal, in the hope that some explanation will be given of so uncommon an occurrence.

About 3 o'clock of that day, I observed an English Sailor running with great speed from the Bow Bazar towards the Court of Requests, and pursued by about ten or twelve Sepoys, each furnished with a stick. The Sailor ran along huzzaing very loud, skipping and waving his hat in the air, apparently in triumph of having outstripped his pursuers. He was about to enter one of the dram shops, near the gate of the Court of Requests; but the natives in the shop seeing that he was pursued, forcibly excluded him.

At this moment the Sepoys came up, and every one of them struck the Sailor with their sticks, knocked him to the ground, and while he was down, and roaring out for mercy, each gave him five or six blows, when they desisted, and seized him by the collar. An Englishman whom I took to be a Constable, and who was also in pursuit now came up, and upon his giving some order to the Sepoys, which I could not distinctly bear, they again attacked the man with their sticks, and gave him three or four blows each over the shoulders and back; they then again seized him by the collar, by orders from the Constable, and dragged him away towards the Bow Bazar, beating him whenever he struggled or made any noise or resistance, on the shoulders and back with their sticks. This operation was repeated with little intermission, as long as they continued in sight.

You will perhaps agree with me, Mr. Editor, that the above circumstances are sufficiently unusual to merit notice; but the curiosity of the Public will be increased when I inform you, that each Sepoy was furnished with a stick so exactly similar in shape and size, that it is impossible to attribute the occurrence to mere accident: the sticks were all about a yard long, of the color of fresh rattan, and about the thickness of a man's thumb, and the Sepoys laid on with them as if they were sure they could break no bones.

Calcutta, July 16, 1819.

SPECTATOR.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

SLAVE TRADE.

The Earl of Liverpool next laid on the table papers relative to the negotiations on the subject of the Slave trade.

The Marquis of Lansdown wished to ask a question of the Noble Secretary of State, not on the subject of the Negotiations at Aix-la-Chapelle respecting the Slave Trade of which he had as yet no knowledge, but relative to the Negotiations of the preceding years, and which he considered it his duty to put, in consequence of the manner in which the African Slave Trade was still prosecuted. He wished to know whether the Treaties concluded in 1817, between this country and Spain and Portugal, had been carried into complete effect; or, in particular, whether that part of the Treaty which related to the appointing of a mixed commission, and the sending it out, had been complied with. This measure was to have been carried into effect within a limited time from the exchange of the ratifications, he believed six or seven months, and that time was now expired.

The Earl of Liverpool said, as we understood, that the commission was appointed; that on the part of Spain and Portugal it was arranged, but that the Commissioners on the part of this country were not sent out.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

COMPLAINT AGAINST ONE OF THE IRISH JUDGES.

Mr. R. Martin rose, pursuant to his notice, to call the attention of the House to the conduct of a learned Judge in Ireland, which would soon come under their consideration. He did not know whether he ought to state the circumstances which induced him to bring forward his present motion, or wait until the documents for which he moved should be before the House.—(*Cries of "Move."*)—In making the motion he would just state the facts which had occurred. In 1815, the Grand Jury (of Galway, we believe) found a bill of indictment against a person named Edward Burke, an Attorney, for wilful and corrupt perjury. When they had found the bill, the accused had the trial put off by affidavit in the absence of a material and necessary witness, named Browne. In the February following, the trial was called on, and he (Mr. Martin) as prosecutor, applied to have the trial further postponed, in consequence of the illness of a material witness—Mr. Connis, an eminent Barrister. The affidavit on which his application was made, stated, that Mr. Connis was lying very ill of a bilious complaint, and could not (to the best of the physician's knowledge) go out with safety to his life.—The application was not to have the trial put off until the next commission, but from day to day, in order that if Mr. Connis got any thing better he might be able to attend. This was refused, and the trial proceeded in. It was this outrageous determination on the part of the Judge (Mr. Justice McClelland) of which he complained, and which induced him to bring it before the House. He concluded by moving, "That there be laid before the House a copy of the bill of indictment found against Edward Burke, an attorney, for wilful and corrupt perjury, and the consequent proceedings thereon."

Lord Castlereagh said, that though a notice of the motion had been given, yet it altogether escaped his attention till the present moment. The House knew how important a subject was a charge against any of the Learned Judges of the land, and that it ought not in fairness to be gone into, until every information on both sides were before them. He should therefore put it to the Honorable Member (Mr. Martin) whether it would not be better to postpone his motion until his Right Honourable friend, (Mr. C. Grant) the representative of the Irish Government, were present. He would be in his place in a few days, and it was natural to believe that he possessed more information upon the subject than any of his Majesty's Ministers in the House. He was satisfied that the Honorable Member did not intend to produce any unfavourable impression against the Learned Judge until the whole of the subject could be gone into (Mr. Martin bowed assent); and he trusted therefore, he would consent to the delay. For his own part, ignorant as he was of the transaction alluded to, he felt it a duty to state from a personal knowledge of the Learned Judge that there was

no one of the Learned Judges of either kingdom, to whom the strictly honourable character which happily belonged to them all might be more peculiarly applied than to him. The Noble Lord concluded by expressing a hope, that the Honourable Member would for the present consent to withdraw his motion.

Mr. C. W. Wynn thought it would be entertaining the charge against the Learned Judge to consent to the motion at present. He therefore suggested that it should be withdrawn, and when brought forward, that it should be simply for the documents alluded to, without going into the merits of the case, until it should be seen from those documents, whether it was one which the House ought to go into.

Mr. Martin said, he was anxious that every means should be given which could bring the matter fairly before the House.

The motion was then withdrawn for a fortnight.

The other orders of the day being disposed of, the House adjourned at a quarter past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17.

The Earl of Gosford and Lord Wodehouse took the oaths and their seats.

A person from the Consistory Court presented the proceedings on the Trelawny Divorce.

Mr. Brogden and Mr. H. Davis brought from the Commons the 20,000,000l. Exchequer Bills Bill, and the Bristol Gas-Light Bill, which were read a first time.

The Malt Duties Bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17.

Sir W. Curtis took the oaths and his seat for Bletchingly amid the cheers and laughter of the Members present.

Mr. Curwen presented a Petition from a portion of the inhabitants of Dorsetshire, praying that lead-mines might be made subject to the payment of poor-rates.

The Speaker informed the House, that John Gardiner and others, who had presented a Petition complaining of an undue election for Bristol, had not entered into the necessary recognizances. The order made regarding the Petition was accordingly discharged.

The Speaker also stated, that Mr. James Daly, who had petitioned against an undue election for the town and county of the town of Galway, and the Right Hon. D. B. Daly, who had petitioned against an undue election for the County of Galway, had not entered into the requisite recognizances. He observed, however, that as by the Act of the 53d of the King no discretion was left to the Speaker, it had been thought right by the House, on a previous occasion, to allow time for the receipt of intelligence from Ireland; and he supposed that the same regulation would be made in the two cases now before the House.

The question was then put, and the time was enlarged until Tuesday se'nnight.

The Report on the Assessed Taxes Bill was brought up by Mr. Lushington.

AGRICULTURAL PETITIONS.

Mr. Stuart Wortley presented a Petition from certain Landowners and occupiers in the West Riding of Yorkshire, stating that it was highly impolitic to allow the importation of agricultural produce, and praying for the appointment of a Committee to investigate the subject.

On the question, that the Petition be brought up,

Sir R. Wilson expressed his astonishment that Petitions like that now offered were continued to be presented, after the unequivocal declaration on the subject made by his Majesty's Ministers.

He had hoped that Hon. Gentleman connected with the agricultural interest would have had prudence enough to have resisted the introduction of these Petitions; and that the subscribers would have had sense enough to stifle them before they saw the light. He had, however, been disappointed; and day after day he saw them making their way into the House. Surely those who presented, and those who signed, had bestowed but little consideration on the present temper and condition of the labouring classes. Did they wish again to exasperate the feelings of those who had so warmly resisted the existing Corn Bill? Did they wish to rekindle that torch which was never lighted without leaving behind it dreadful traces of devastation? The signatures to the Petitions were obtained generally by the undue influence of landlords over their tenants; and the Corn Bill itself operated as a tax upon the chief article of sustenance among the poor. He warned those who laid these petitions upon the table, that if they persisted, they would be met by counter-petitions to repeal the existing Corn Bill: very little encouragement was required to induce all the manufacturing districts to block up with petitions the entrance to the House. He trusted, therefore, that all Hon. Members would do their utmost to discourage, instead of increasing, these appeals to Parliament, which had for their object new augmentations of the national burdens, and which would put in jeopardy the property, if not the lives, of some of His Majesty's subjects. The agricultural interest had been most fortunate to get what they now enjoyed, and he was certain that they ought to be well satisfied with gains which were the losses of the rest of the Country.

Mr. Stuart Wortley observed, that in presenting the Petition, he had not intended to express any opinion; he had great doubts whether the present was the fit time for making such a claim; but he was quite sure of this—that if any class of the King's subjects felt themselves aggrieved, and thought fit to complain to Parliament, it was the duty of every Member to present that appeal.—(hear, hear.)—It was strange, indeed, to hear the gallant General recommend the controlling and stifling of this right.—(hear.)—He hoped he should never again be obliged to listen to such advice: at all events, he should be very unwilling to follow it, especially when the petitioners, as in the present instance, only required that a Committee should be appointed to inquire. Members for counties had a difficult course to steer, between the agricultural interest on the one hand and the manufacturing interest on the other. They were bound to be impartial, and impartiality was not displayed by refusing to lay before the House the respectful demands of one of the bodies who had a right to look to Parliament for redress.—(hear.)

Sir Robert Wilson explained, that he did not mean to throw any obstacle in the way of petitioning; but knowing how pregnant the agitation of this question was with mischief, he thought that Hon. Gentlemen might advantageously employ the influence they undoubtedly possessed in the country, to check such prayers as the Petitions contained, before they were made public.

Mr. Alderman Wood admitted, that it was most fit that the Petition should be presented; but he objected to the continual debate of this subject every time one of them was brought forward; in his view, if a Committee were required, it would be much better for the Hon. Member for Yorkshire to move for it at once, and the whole question would probably be set at rest by the negativing of such a motion. When once the House had decided that no new inquiry should be made, the country would perhaps be satisfied.

Mr. W. Wynn rose for the purpose of deprecating all discussion of this subject. He was far from wishing that a motion should be made for a Committee, because that must inevitably produce discussion.—(hear.)—It was no doubt, the duty of every Member to present respectful Petitions; but if the petitioners in this case expected that their prayers should be granted, they would probably be mistaken: an alteration in the Corn Laws was no indifferent matter; it would occasion alarm in every quarter of the country; it would bring into conflict discordant interests, and might in the end prove destructive of the very object the petitioners had in view (hear, hear.) No man could have forgotten the general ferment raised a few years ago by this very topic: he had opposed the measure then under discussion, and he was well persuaded that nothing could be gained, and a great deal might be lost, by any new attempt at legislation. He therefore resisted any such notion in the earliest stage.

Mr. Stuart Wortley assured the House, that he had no intention of bringing forward any motion for a Committee.

Sir James Graham said, that the part of the country with which he was connected was well contented with the law as it stood, and the distinct declaration on the part of Ministers, he was sure, had a powerful and beneficial effect in all the farming districts. He hoped that no encouragement would be given to the presenting of petitions of this kind in future.

Sir R. Wilson again stated, that he was far from wishing that Members should refuse to present petitions; they might, however, usefully employ their influence to discourage proceedings which would produce agitation in the public mind.

A Member, whose name we could not learn, said, that he was not yet prepared to offer a decided opinion, whether the law did or did not require alteration. He objected to the imputation of motives to the agriculturists by which they were not actuated, and he was convinced that there was no class of society more deserving of attention, regard, and support. (Hear, hear.)

Sir R. Wilson added, that the House was equally bound to protect the manufacturing and the agricultural interests.—(Question.)—No partiality ought to be shown; but farmers ought to be well satisfied with the advantages they had obtained in the last Parliament.

The Petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Casberd presented a Petition from Mr. Halse, agent for the petitioner, against an undue return for St. Ives, praying an extension of time for putting in the sureties.

Military

General Orders by the Commander in Chief, Head-quarters, Calcutta, July 14, 1819.

The Commander in Chief has learned that in Corps of Irregular Cavalry where the Clothing is red, the Jackets of the Officers have been ornamented in a manner which renders them undistinguishable from the established Field Uniforms of His Excellency's Aides-de-Camp. Serious errors might occur on Service from this circumstance, the Commander in Chief is therefore pleased to direct that Officers Commanding Divisions shall require such alteration to be made in the Jackets of Cavalry Officers wearing Scarlet Uniforms as may preclude any such mistake.

Lieutenant Vanrenen, of the Regiment of Artillery, is removed from the 8th Company 2d Battalion to the 6th Company 3d Battalion, vice Lieutenant Crommelin, who is posted to the first mentioned Battalion and Company.

All Reports of the Corps of Engineers are to be made to Lieutenant-Colonel Mouat, during the temporary absence from the Presidency of Major-General Garstin.

The appointment by Major Johnston, Commanding the 2d Regiment Light Cavalry, of Lieutenant Burgh to act as Adjutant to that Corps, from the 23d of May 1819, is confirmed.

Acting Apothecary Billings, doing duty at the Presidency General Hospital, is directed to join His Majesty's 11th Regiment of Light Dragoons.

Sergeant Mackay, of the abovementioned Regiment, is appointed to act as Hospital Steward to the Corps.

The undermentioned Officers have leave of absence:

Major Cumming, 7th Light Cavalry, in extension, to visit the Presidency on private affairs, from the 4th of September, to 4th of December.

Lieutenant Aldous, 2d Battalion 19th Native Infantry, to visit Delhi on urgent private affairs, from the 16th of August, to 31st of October.

Assistant Surgeon Evans, 1st Battalion 10th Native Infantry, to visit the Presidency on urgent private affairs, from the 31st of July, to 31st of January, 1820.

J. NICOL, Adjt. Genl. of the Army.

THE MEMBERS.—AN ODE.

Mutato nomine de te—narratur.

Whilst Manners Sutton's wig was young,
Ere Peel his votive hymn had sung,
The new M. P.'s, with eager air,
Crowded round the Speaker's chair :
Jobbing, cheering, moving, prating,
Possessed beyond *The Courier's* stating :
By turns they wooed the Treasury's charms,
Her golden locks, her clasping arms,
Till once 'twas said, when all were fired,
With hopes of future gain inspired,
From bills reports of leaden weight,
They sought materials for debate ;
And as they oft had conned apart,
Deep lessons of successful art—
Each—for interest ruled the hour—
Would prove his own persuasive power.
First Castlereagh his skill would try
To drive the diplomatic trade ;
But back recoiled, he well knew why,
'Twas at the faults himself had made.
Next Lawson launched "his virgin bark,"
And slipped his ferrets from their strings ;
Sought unclean beasts from Noah's ark,
And made of vermin sacred things—
Then Manning rose, with face of care,
The paste-board King of paper Lords,
Mumbled his speech with drowsy air,
'Twas figures now, and now 'twas words—
But Rufus Peel, thou statesman fair,
What were thy official measures ?
Still they scattered public treasures,
Yet bade the Exchequer Seals at distance hail !
The Christ Church groves the notes prolong,
And Lowther's hills, and Erin's fenny vales ;
He called on Church and State throughout his song ;
And when the intolerant theme he chose,
Oxford Amens, were heard at every close,
And Peel in triumph smiled, and waved his sandy hair—
And longer had he sung—but with a frown
Canning impatient rose ;
He threw his poisoned orease* in thunders down ;
And with a freezing look
His heartless course of cruel sarcasm took :
And uttered jests so cold and dead,
Were ne'er Joe Miller's tales more base and low.
And ever and anon he beat
Poor Ogdene's wounds with trampling feet—
And though sometimes each hollow groan between,
The "fatuous" Binning at his side,
His Caledonian voice applied,
Yet still he kept his harsh insulting mien,
Whilst from the India Board he raised his anxious head.
Thy speech, O Sinclair ! on no point was fixed !
Sad beacon on thy wandering way ;
Now with Whig lore, and now with Tory mixed,
On Sidmouth now it called, now trembling called on
Grey.
With eyes upraised, as one inspired,
Pale Wilberforce sat far retired,
And from cross bench for trimmer meet,
Poured loud as Rowland Hill his righteous soul,
Whilst cheering weak from nooks around,
Babbling saintlets joined the sound.
Through aisles and † naves the common measure ran ;
Or in the Court, Requests ! with fond delay,
Round an holy calm diffusing,
Worldly care, and heavenly musing,
In sacred murmurs died away.
But O ! how altered was the pious tone,
When his long bow the sage Arbuthnot drew ;
His pen across the paper flung,
Wrote his "most secret" Notes to Members young ;

The Treasury call, to Wales and Cornwall known,
O'er Scotland's crags, and Ireland's marshes green ;
Charles Long rejoiced the well drilled votes to tell,
And Holmes leaped up at the division bell.

Last came Van's beloved restriction ;
He with peat red box advancing,
First to Exchequer Bills his vox adrest ;
But when he saw those darling notes of fiction,
Whose faithless promise he could value best ;
They would have thought, who heard him speak,
They saw some Paper-building Lawyer's Clerk ;
Trip through the Temple alleys dark ;
And whilst his chirping lisp assailed the Chair,
Bragge † kept with Clive his dull unvaried round,
Thick were their skulls, their principles unsound ;
And Van, amidst his drowsy prose,
As if to wake his colleagues from repose,
Shook perfumed powder from his close-shorn hair.

* A Malay weapon, polished, sharp, and dangerous : tho' frequently
ornamented with gems.

+ Query—Knaves ?
I regret much that the Cabinet will not afford me two better re-
presentatives of "Love and Mirth."
"Love formed with Mirth a gay fantastic round"—Collins.

Miscellanea.

Sale of Bibles.—Some years ago an injunction was granted by the present Chancellor against the sale of Edinburgh Bibles and after the question came to be tried, the right (as is called) of the Universities and the King's Printers founded upon their letters patent, to be the sole Printers of all Bibles sold in England, was confirmed. It is no part of our business to notice the hardship of the decision, to call it no worse. Indeed, those interested seem to think so themselves, for no attention whatever was paid to it by them, and the sale of Edinburgh Bibles went on as usual for a long time thereafter.—About 18 months ago, however, these gentlemen thought proper to lay hands upon a select number of the booksellers, whom they conceived to be the greatest transgressors and to serve them with injunctions and threaten them with Chancery suits. The consequence was, sums of money, in the name of expences and fines, were exacted from each, according to the front of their offending ; and we know, from one respectable house they levied upwards of 100L It is believed a very considerable sum has been thus realized and shared by the two Universities and his Majesty's Printers.—Now, upwards of sixty respectable Booksellers and Pawnbrokers have been lately served with Chancery injunctions, and threatened with the commencement of expensive suits against each, unless they desist from selling all Bibles, new or second-hand, with or without notes, such as Malham's, Banks's, Cookson's, Southwell's, and such like. We have heard nothing as yet said about Henry's and Scott's Bible, but let the proprietors of these and other like valuable works join their brethren in taking effectual measures to thwart these monopolizers of the Grace of God, or they may live to repent it.

A Secretworth Knowing.—“Wisdom crieth aloud in the streets, and no one regardeth her.” Some three centuries have elapsed, since Montaigne made a most valuable discovery, valuable for its excellence, and encouraging by its facility, but it is very remarkable that no great advantage has as yet been taken of it. That the plea of ignorance may not be urged, it should now and then be exhibited in broad sunshine. Observing that common honesty was (in his day, as in Juvenal's) considered a prodigy of virtue:

*Nunc si depositum non inficiatur amicus,
Prodigiosa fides !—*

He takes occasion to remark—*Et ne fut jamais tems, &c.* that there never was a time, when a more certain or greater reward could be obtained by Princes, than was then proposed to them, by the exercise of virtue and justice. The first, he adds, who shall take it into his head to court favour and reputation by this mode of proceeding, I am much deceived, if he will not, at a very easy rate, eclipse all his fraternity ! He then speaks of force and oppression, which he admits have their merits, but, at this game, he says, *et Prince's praise* is stifled and lost in the crowd of competitors. Let him, he concludes, if he wishes to be distinguished, shine in humanity, in truth, in fidelity to his subjects, in temperance; and above all, in justice; “marques rares, inconnues, et exiles.” Liv. ii Essai.

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

- July 10. At Calcutta, by the Reverend Mr. Parsons, Mr. W. M. Toulmin, to Miss C. H. Armstrong, Daughter of the late W. Armstrong, Esq. of the Civil Service.

DEATHS.

- July 9. At Shawgung, Jnapore, the Infant Son of Robert Davies, Esq. aged 7 years and 11 months.
3. At Dacca, Jacob Easaw, Esq. aged 44 years.
6. At Calcutta, Mr. Robert Bruce, aged 20 years.

On the 30th of April, at Housseinabad, of the Cholera, Captain John Taws, of the 7th Light Cavalry, who so highly distinguished himself in command of a Detachment during the last proceeding against the Ex-Rajah of Nagpore.

In the premature fate of this gallant and deeply lamented Officer, we have to add another instance to the many it has been our melancholy duty recently to record, of the instability and uncertainty of all earthly happiness.

Captain Taws, after an absence of 20 months active service with his corps, had just obtained furlough and permission to visit Futtighur, the residence of his now unhappy widow and family, when early on the morning of the day preceding that on which he was to have quitted the Regiment, he was seized with the prevailing epidemic, and expired at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, casting a gloom over his brother Officers and the Station at large, which will be long and feelingly remembered.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

July.	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
16	Mary	British	W. Kneale	Liverpool

Nautical Notices.

The following is extracted from the Bombay Gazette of the 23d of June:

By the arrival of the Myra, from the Isle of France, we have been kindly put in possession of a few more particulars respecting the loss of the Dutch 64; and we are concerned to state, that we have also the accounts of two other shipwrecks to lay before our readers:

It appears that the Dutch 64 sprung a leak soon after she left the Straits of Sunda, that she ran for the Island of Diego Garcia, to leeward; they then made signals to an American brig at anchor in the harbour, who immediately ran out to them, and took all her crew on board; they had just received them, when a gun was fired from the deserted ship—the boat was immediately sent again, and she returned with a single drunken sailor. The sail was scarcely now made on the brig, and she had got about half a mile from her, when the ship caught fire and sunk in deep water. The brig returned to the Island, where she landed such part of the crew as she could not accommodate, and proceeded to the Isle of France with about 200 of them, whence she returned to bring the remainder.

It is satisfactory to know, that the sufferers received from the British Government every assistance that was necessary to alleviate their misfortunes.

On the 6th of June, the ship Salamutty Savoy, of about 200 tons, belonging to Demann, having left Bombay on the 28th of May, ran on shore on the beach near the entrance of the river of Onore, and immediately went to pieces. She was manned entirely by natives; twenty-two of her crew quitted her in boats, some distance from the land, ten of which were drowned; six men remained on board till she came on shore, and were saved. She sailed from Bombay with a cargo of Cotton and Salt, bound for the Malay Coast. It appears she proved leaky two days before she came on

shore, by which she became unmanageable, having, at the time of going to pieces, her fore-sail half hauled up, the fore-top-sail loose on the cap, and the main-sail and main-top-sail cut away.

Great part of the Cotton is washed on shore; her owner is a Banyan, named Damah Gopoldos. The seconer the underwriters appoint an agent to take charge of what cargo may be saved, the better.

The long-expected free trader Thames, from London the 1st of February, arrived at Bombay on the 22d of June, and brings the melancholy news of the loss of the Leda, Captain Lamb, on a shoal about nine miles to the S. W. of Mayotta.

The shipwreck took place a little after 8 p. m. on the 14th of May; they appear to have been steering under easy sail, expecting to have made Johanna rather than Mayotta, when the ship struck on a bank of mud and stones. The first sea made a complete breach over them, and every idea of saving her was abandoned; the crew quitted the wreck, in the boats, at day-break, and proceeded to the Island, when, to make up the sum of their wretchedness, they were plundered and otherwise ill-treated. The intention of proceeding immediately to Johanna being made known to the Chief, (for the King had absented himself,) it was opposed, and they were desired to remain three days; they, however, prepared for the voyage, and having paid a visit to the wreck, they found her on her beam ends, with the sea making a breach over her; they, however, procured a cask of provisions and some other necessaries, and again returned to the Island. In the bay was a Johanna boat, from whom they procured a compass and some other trifles, and after remaining two days proceeded on to Johanna, where they arrived safe after a passage of 48 hours, and where they found alleviation from their misfortunes in the kindness with which they were received and treated by all the inhabitants of this little Island. Captain Lamb also testifies to the general good conduct of his crew during these trying scenes, and it is satisfactory to know, that the whole have arrived at Bombay in good health.

The Lord Castlereagh, Captain Briggs, and John Bannerman, Captain Hunter, left Bombay on the 20th of June, for China. The Lady Borringdon, Captain Living, and England, Captain Reay, from Bombay, were expected to sail for England shortly after the abovementioned ships.

An article from the Hague, dated the 10th of February, says: "We have accounts from London, of the 5th of this month, which state, that the British Government had resolved to place the ships of the kingdom of the Netherlands on the same footing in its ports as the English vessels. By this measure the vessels of the Netherlands would be freed from the payment of extra duties, and would enjoy a diminution of one-fourth of the pilot duty, and half the duty for the maintenance of the light houses, and of the port duties of Ramsgate."

Commercial Reports.

The prices of Cotton in the Bombay market, are from 190 to 260 rupees per Surat Candy, according to quality, but they are stated to be merely nominal, as no purchasers are disposed to take the article at rates so high.

The following is an account of the declared value of British manufactures, exported from the port of Liverpool during the month of January, 1819:

Printed Cottons, &c.	£397,900
Woolens,	180,700
Hardware,	83,000
Other Manufactures,	196,500
Total value £858,100		